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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SUBJECT	Characteristics and Photographs of the Soviet T-54 Tank	DATE DISTR.	11 March 1957
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

photographs of the Soviet T-54 tank, which shows a top three-quarter, a front, and a right side view. The following are characteristics of the T-54 tank:

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Physical Data

Length [overall] - 900 cm with gun; 605 cm without gun
 Width [overall] - 328 cm
 Height [lowest operable] - 240 cm
 Ground clearance - 41 cm
 Track width - 58.5 cm
 Length of track on ground - 383 cm
 Ground pressure - .8 kilograms per square centimeter
 Weight [metric] - 36 tons
 Armor - 120-mm or 75-mm on front hull

Armament

One 100-mm gun, two 7.62 machine guns, and one 12.7 machine gun. The muzzle velocity of the 100 mm gun is approximately 900 meters per second. One of the 7.62 machine guns is a Degtyarev, and the 12.7 machine gun is a Goryunov anti-aircraft weapon.

Engine

Model - V-54
 Type - diesel, 12 cylinder
 Horsepower - 520 bhp.

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Performance Data

Maximum speed - 48 kilometers per hour
 Obstacle clearance - 70 cm
 Ditch clearance - 240 cm
 Immersion limit - 140 cm

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Identification Features

2. The T-54 had five bogie wheels. The distance between No. 1 and 2 was considerably greater than between the others. The tracks were slack and covered on top. The rear sprocket wheel was also a feature of identification.
3. The 100-mm gun protruded three meters from the center of the turret, and probably pointed to the rear while the tank was traveling. The gun had a cylindrical muzzle brake, and the base of the barrel was exposed only slightly at the turret. One coaxial machine gun was mounted to the left of the main armament, and a second was mounted in the hull to the right.
4. The turret was a squat, low, elongated, convex structure mounted forward of the center of the tank and was similar in design to that of the JS-3. Two hand grips were provided at each side of the turret. The top of the turret was flat and sloped forward, and two cupolas were set at the rear of the turret.
5. A vertical aerial was mounted to the right and in front of the turret.

Miscellaneous

6. The tank was equipped with a stabilizer to assist in setting the direction of the gun, but this probably did not improve elevation. Infrared equipment was probably provided in the T-54. Also, the T-54 had no provisions for reserve fuel tanks.³

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the ground clearance of the T-54 was

50 cm.

the ditch clearance was 270 cm.

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T-54 TANK. PROBABLY 1955.

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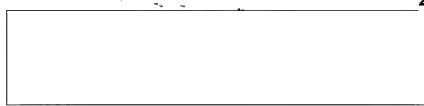


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